

IN THE CLAIMS

1.-31. (Cancelled).

32. (Currently amended) An article comprising a water-absorbent sheet material comprising a lightly cross-linked unneutralized acidic water-absorbent resin capable of absorbing at least ten times its weight in water, when in a neutralized form, and a lightly crosslinked unneutralized basic water-absorbent resin capable of absorbing at least ten times its weight in water, when in a charged form, said absorbent sheet material manufactured by a process comprising:

depositing particles of the acidic and the basic water-absorbent resins onto a support surface to form a continuous layer of water-absorbent resin particles; and

compressing the layer of resin particles to form the water-absorbent sheet material in a predetermined thickness.

33. (Original) The article of claim 32 wherein the article is a diaper or a catamenial device.

34. (Original) A process of absorbing an aqueous medium comprising contacting the medium with the article of claim 32.

35. (Original) The process of claim 34 wherein the aqueous medium contains electrolytes.

36. (Original) The process of claim 35 wherein the electrolyte-containing aqueous medium is selected from the group consisting of urine, saline, menses, and blood.

37. (Cancelled)

38. (Cancelled)

39. (Cancelled)

40. (Cancelled)

41. (Cancelled)

- 42. (Cancelled)
- 43. (Cancelled)
- 44. (Cancelled)
- 45. (Cancelled)
- 46. (Cancelled)
- 47. (Cancelled)
- 48. (Cancelled)
- 49. (Cancelled)
- 50. (Cancelled)
- 51. (Cancelled)
- 52. (Cancelled)
- 53. (Cancelled)
- 54. (Cancelled)
- 55. (Cancelled)
- 56. (Cancelled)
- 57. (Cancelled)
- 58.-76. (Cancelled).
- 77. (Cancelled)
- 78. (Cancelled)

79. (Previously presented) The article of claim 32 wherein the process for manufacturing the absorbent sheet material further comprises a step of contacting the resin particles with a bonding expedient selected from the group consisting of water, propylene glycol, glycerin, a C1-C3 alcohol, dimethyl formamide, dimethyl sulfoxide, heat, and a combination thereof, prior to or simultaneously with compressing the resin particles; to bond adjacent water-absorbent resin particles.

80. (Previously presented) The article of claim 32 wherein the basic water-absorbing resin is neutralized 0% to 25% and the acidic water-absorbing resin is neutralized 0% to 25%.

81. (Previously presented) The article of claim 80 further including depositing a second acidic water-absorbing resin neutralized 25% to 100%.